

H. Res. 374

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

April 28, 1998.

Whereas in January 1992 Algeria annulled the second round of parliamentary elections;

Whereas the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which favored the creation of a theocratic state, expected to win in those parliamentary elections;

Whereas the suspension of the Algerian elections in January 1992 triggered an escalation of terrorism;

Whereas the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS), the armed wing of FIS, started terrorist activities in the wake of the annulled elections, but has since declared a unilateral ceasefire;

Whereas the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), a nonpolitical radical Islamic movement, has been responsible for carrying out terrorist activities, particularly since the AIS ceasefire;

Whereas the United States Government has listed the GIA as a foreign terrorist organization;

Whereas tens of thousands of Algerians have lost their lives since the onset of the violence in 1992, with hundreds estimated to have lost their lives in the holy month of Ramadan that ended in January 1998;

Whereas the violence perpetrated by terrorists has become increasingly barbaric, leaving thousands of innocent civilians, particularly women and children, dead or injured;

Whereas the Government of Algeria has not agreed to the establishment of an international inquiry into the massacres;

Whereas the democratic process has progressed in Algeria despite the current terrorist activity; and

Whereas the United States has a strong interest in seeing the development of a democratic and peaceful Algeria: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) strongly condemns the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) and any other terrorist groups responsible for the atrocities being committed in Algeria;

(2) condemns the perpetrators of violence and other crimes against the fundamental human rights of Algerians;

(3) urges those who continue to engage in violence and the fundamental abuse of human rights to discontinue such activity;

(4) calls on the Government of Algeria to take all necessary and legal steps to prevent violence and stop it once it occurs;

(5) encourages the Government of Algeria to cooperate with the international community to ensure transparency in the investigation and combating of ter-

rorist activity, including the use of objective investigators into the massacres;

(6) acknowledges that the Government of Algeria has made progress toward democratization and urges the government to engage in dialogue with all elements of Algerian society who have renounced violence, in order to further democracy and promote the rule of law;

(7) urges the United States Government to continue to work closely with the Government of Algeria to bring about the development and implementation of political and economic reforms as well as the full restoration of law and order in Algeria;

(8) encourages the European Union and the Government of Algeria to further their cooperation against terrorism; and

(9) encourages the Algerian Government to accept the appointment of a Special Rapporteur by the United Nations or another qualified independent organization to conduct an inquiry into the violations of human rights in Algeria.

Attest:

Clerk.